



State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF JUVENILE AFFAIRS

Board of Juvenile Affairs and Board of Oklahoma Youth Academy Charter School

Meeting Minutes September 18, 2019

Board Members Present

Sean Burrage
Tony Caldwell
Janet Foss
Stephen Grissom
Timothy Tardibono (arrived at 9:05 a.m.)
Jenna Worthen
Karen Youngblood

Absent

Amy Emerson
Mautra Jones

Guests

TS Bailey, Robert Cornelius, Brenda Myers, Christine Patton, Derrick Sier, Darla Slipke, Tyler Talley, and Lisa Williams

Present from the Office of Juvenile Affairs

Yemi Adexiga, Janelle Bretten, Steven Buck, Paula Christiansen, Kevin Clagg, Donna Glandon, Rachel Holt, Michael McNutt, Carol Miller, Len Morris, Daryl Onwuchumba, Audrey Rockwell, Paul Shawler, Matt Stangl, Amy Stuart, Paula Tillison, Shelley Waller, and Melissa White

Call to Order

Chair Caldwell called the September 18, 2019, meeting of the Board of Juvenile Affairs and Board of Oklahoma Youth Academy Charter School to order at 9:00 a.m. and requested roll be called.

Presentation on Level E education services for Cedar Canyon, Mustang Treatment Center, Thunder Ridge, and Scissortail Pointe

Director of Education Melissa White introduced Oklahoma Family Counseling Services Chief Executive Officer Robert Cornelius. CEO Cornelius presented on the education services within his Level E group homes.

Vice Chair Youngblood, talked about a tour at Mustang Treatment Center and how impressive the young ladies she met with were. What are the current challenges and needs for that facility? Also, what are the pros and cons of public school v. an alternative programs? The needs are based on each facilities population. Mustang has done an excellent job at recognizing the

population's needs. Challenge in Mustang is currently dealing with a shift in the age of populations academic levels which is presenting a challenge to the district but they are working diligently to meet their needs with new teachers.

Chair Caldwell asked what is the average length of stay within the programs. Cedar is on average 7 months as is ThunderRidge. However, if needed, that can be adjusted based on the needs of the youth. Chair Caldwell asked what is the percentage of kids that do not receive a visit? What can OJA do or provide to assist with overcoming challenges. Parental visits are a challenge. Transportation is an issue for families. Our treatment team encourages family therapy as much as possible and works around any scheduling needs. Strongly encouraging families to participate would be helpful. Scissortail has a unique population and the family engagement rate is much higher than the other facilities. Chair Caldwell are you measuring and comparing outcomes within the facilities. It is difficult because access is difficult once they are out of care. Chair Caldwell asked if access would help. Mr. Cornelius felt that it would be helpful. Chair Caldwell asked if he worked with or ran facilities for other state agencies. His team also runs group homes for DHS. Mr. Cornelius felt that the populations were similar. He felt that trauma levels were maybe a little different. Mr. Cornelius felt that OJA did an excellent job at looking at the youth's individual needs before placing them. He also felt that our youth have better opportunities and programs when leaving the facilities. Chair Caldwell asked if there was one thing OJA could do to make things easier/ better to treat kids in OJA care. Mr. Cornelius stated his appreciation for OJA thinking differently for the population treated in Scissortail. He also appreciated the work the Board was completing on rates and standards.

Public Comment

No public comments.

Director's Report

Director Buck ran through his report. Chair Caldwell thanked the Director for continuing to take the time to visit programs that provide care to kids receiving services from OJA contractors.

Director Buck introduced Chief Psychologist Dr. Paul Shawler. Dr. Shawler gave a brief synopsis of his three goals for the agency: 1) How can we grow expertise, 2) Right treatment for the right kid at the right time, 3) How do we create an environment of hope and resilience. Ms. Worthen asked what is necessary to raise a youth's hope score. How do we have a first contact that embraces the philosophy of you made a poor decision but you are a good kid. How do we move forward to make sure to engage the young people and their families to get past this one event and not hold you back. This is not a check box system. In our current model, kids spend at a minimum 7 months, a researcher basis shows that 4 to 6 months is the timeframe for maximum impact. Judge Foss asked in working with the institution staff are you going to be actively involved in training. Yes, this is a passion area. We need to approach the youth with a positive framework. Creating a positive interaction when youth start disruptive behavior. Dr. Shawler briefly explained where he is reviewing current training models and the areas where he wants begin making effective change. Vice Chair Youngblood asked if he was reviewing the Next Generation campus if he thought things need to be changed or altered. Dr. Shawler felt that we

have a tremendous opportunity with the current census and staff. Reviewing how we can change the number of beds and systems to effectively treat the children within the facility. This will take strong evaluation and work with the staff. Most important is to create an incentive based system for the children. Dr. Grissom asked if Dr. Shawler knew the relative income potential of Master level counselors in the private sector vs. OJA. Dr. Shawler feels that Carol is doing a great job at incentivizing and recruiting staff. It is important to give current staff the tools to become what is needed at the facility. It is also important to work to retain those staff members. Dr. Grissom felt that is true. Dr. Shawler stated he was making contact with the local universities and we are under-utilizing those resources. Chair Caldwell congratulated him on the appointment. He thanked Dr. Shawler and the Communications team on nailing our new mission in the newspaper article. He then asked Dr. Shawler about any plans or ideas to increase family engagement. Dr. Shawler feels we are missing the mark on how we are working with families. It is his belief that we have to engage the family early on. It is important to review the current system and if it is causing part of the problem. We also need to empower the JSU team to engage family interaction through technology based communications. Chair Caldwell stated you mentioned OJA used to have more professional psychologists, noting our population is down, but we are in a rising tide in general revenue funding and budget. Has any been allocated to you for additional staff or resources. Dr. Shawler stated he feels supported but he wants to be thoughtful and looking at long term goals before bringing on additional staff members. Ms. Worthen if we are equipping our kids with the tools necessary to build safety nets and families where either they have none or their current resources are not capable of providing those tools. Dr. Shawler agreed that is important but that will take work and partnership with sister agencies and private sector resources/ partnerships.

Update on the Next Generation Campus Project

Mr. Kevin Clagg gave a brief status of the where the project currently stands.

Presentation on recommended Rates and Standards

Mr. Kevin Clagg presented the attached rates and standards presentation.

There were no public comments.

Proposed rates and standards were submitted to OMES on July 15, 2019, these are new rates for a new treatment model, see attached information.

Mr. Tardibono asked if the 16 bed cap was a federal standard. Mr. Clagg explained this was an RBMS standard, created to clarify a group home vs. a facility. Chair Caldwell thanked the providers for being patient as we work to create these rates and trying to return the funds to the appropriate standards. Our providers are working to provide services along with modernizing service delivery and changing from a public safety to a treatment system. Dr. Grissom asked what is the current RBMS rate. Mr. Clagg stated that \$148.20 is the current maximum rate and the new rate will be a new maximum rate. Dr. Grissom asked what we currently receive from RBMS? Mr. Clagg explained that we receive approximately \$70 per day which OJA pays match. RBMS is updating the rate at the request of OKDHS, OJA, and OHCA but the exact amount is

unknown. Mr. Tardibono asked if this put us back to 2013 – 2015. Mr. Clagg stated this puts above those standards but below DHS rates which has stricter requirements.

Discussion and/or possible vote to approve rates and standards for Community Based Level E Group Home, RS19-007-001 - \$192.31 per diem

Mr. Burrage moved to approve with a second by Dr. Grissom.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Grissom, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson and Jones

Rates and standards for Community Based Level E Group Home, RS19-007-001 - \$192.31 per diem, approved.

Approval of Minutes for the August 21, 2019, Board Meeting

Vice Chair Youngblood moved to approve with a second by Ms. Worthen.

Aye: Caldwell, Foss, Grissom, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Abstain: Burrage

Absent: Emerson and Jones

August 21, 2019, board minutes approved.

Discussion and/or possible vote to reschedule October 2019 meeting

Director Buck and Secretary Rockwell explained that due to scheduling conflicts that lead to the cancellation of the SAG/ OJA Board retreat and the fact the SAG decided to hold their retreat as scheduled, it creates a conflict for Dr. Grissom as he chairs the SAG board.

Judge Foss moved to amend the October meeting from Friday, October 18th to Wednesday, October 16th with a 9am start time, with a second by Vice Chair Youngblood.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Grissom, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson and Jones

October meeting moved to 9am on Wednesday, October 16th.

Discussion and/or possible vote to approve the year-to-date OJA Finance Report

Mr. Burrage moved to approve with a second by Judge Foss.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Grissom, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson and Jones

Year-to-date OJA Finance Report approved.

Discussion and/or possible vote to approve the FY2021 Budget Request

Director Buck presented the attached proposed budget and investment priorities.

Judge Foss asked if there would be changes to the statutory structure for youthful offenders and population sent to DOC. Yes, as trends continue to show a downward trend, things will change. Detention centers may be asked to house youthful offenders rather than county jails. However, there is a change for 18 to 20 year olds entering the adult system and potentially we could be asked to lend subject matter expertise. Chair Caldwell noted that the physiology and research shows that certain ages should be treated in the juvenile system rather than the adult system. Director Buck reminded the Board in 2018, there was a minor enhancement to the youthful offender age adjusting treatment to the age of 19 and aligning with laws for treatments of juvenile delinquent. Vice Chair Youngblood asked what budget priorities will be given priority. Director Buck stated that work being discussed by the RESTORE task force, legislative work, and other task force work are definitely looking that early intervention programs will most likely be a part of the reports coming from those committees. Ms. Worthen asked what total percentage increase is this from last year's request. Director Buck said overall it is a 10% increase. Chair Caldwell explained that over the last 3 fiscal years, our agency did not take as big a cut as other agencies. Mr. Tardibono asked how the pay increase for both DHS and DOC play into our current ask. Director Buck stated a lot of OJA employees have been asking the same question. Paula Tillison and her team are reviewing each increase by classification. OKDHS completed a peer review pay raise. We are building the campus with efficiencies the agency created and are maintaining funds to begin making bond payments. Mr. Tardibono clarified the process. Director Buck stated that paperwork has to be submitted to OMES by October 1st. OJA has already had their budget hearing with OMES. On items 6 and 8, will further details follow? Director Buck said you should ask monthly about item 6. On item 8, we need to have a DMH and Federation of Families presentation for the Board. Chair Caldwell was happy to see restoration of funds but the current ask is not enough. The current ask is not enough to appropriately compensate employees but it is a great beginning. He encouraged the Finance Subcommittee to continue to report back on this area. Director Buck reminded the Board that in 2015 – 2016 the State passed the juvenile competency statute and OJA has tirelessly worked to eliminate those youth entering the juvenile justice system. Chair Caldwell asked, how do we adapt the agency to meet the realities we face today? We have made a lot of progress in the work we do but we can look long term to review the structure in place to treat the youth long term. He also reminded the Board our budget request has remained static over the last 5 years but the acuity levels are rising and the agency is going to have to have the resources to handle the needs that come along with that.

Vice Chair Youngblood moved to approve with a second by Mr. Burrage.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Grissom, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson and Jones

FY2021 Budget Request approved.

Chair Caldwell asked the Director about what occurs after the end of the Executive budget process the agency enters the Legislative budget process. Representative Mark Lawson, of Sapulpa, and Senator Frank Simpson, of Ardmore, of the Human Services subcommittees will convene budget hearings, lately these have been held jointly, that are open to the public. Board members will be notified of the hearing and are welcome to join.

Discussion and/or possible vote to approve 2019-2020 year-to-date Oklahoma Youth Academy Charter School Finance Report

Mr. Burrage moved to approve with a second by Mr. Tardibono.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Grissom, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson and Jones

2018-2019 year-to-date Oklahoma Youth Academy Charter School (OYACS) Finance Report approved.

Discussion and/or possible vote to approve modifications to the FY2020 encumbrances for the Oklahoma Youth Academy Charter School

Dr. Grissom moved to approve with a second by Judge Foss.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Grissom, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson and Jones

Modifications to the FY2020 encumbrances for the Oklahoma Youth Academy Charter School approved.

Discussion and/or possible vote to enter Executive Session

Mr. Tardibono moved with a second by Vice Chair Youngblood.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Grissom, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson and Jones

Board moved to move into Executive Session at 10:55 a.m. after a 5 minute break.

Discussion and/or possible vote to return from Executive Session

Vice Chair Youngblood noted that Dr. Grissom left at 11:39 a.m.

Judge Foss moved to return from Executive Session, with a second by Mr. Burrage.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson, Grissom, and Jones

Board returned from Executive Session at 11:49 a.m.

Items

Announcements/comments

Ms. Worthen noted that Director Buck received the Lynn Institute received the Legacy Award. Director Buck noted that he was troubled by receiving the reward and what it means for him.

Mr. Tardibono noted Tracie Goad and Bob Williams from District 2 presented at the RESTORE task force Front End Subcommittee meeting about diversion programs in the Bartlesville area.

Chair Caldwell asked that at the November board meeting, the Board hold a working lunch to create a goals list for the upcoming years.

Director Buck noted that the legislative agenda may appear on the December agenda.

New business; as authorized by 25 O.S. § 311(A) (9)

No new business.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Youngblood moved to adjourn with a second by Judge Foss.

Aye: Burrage, Caldwell, Foss, Tardibono, Worthen, and Youngblood

Absent: Emerson, Jones, and Grissom

Chair Caldwell adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

Minutes approved in regular session on the 16th day of October, 2019.

Prepared by:


Audrey Rockwell, Secretary

Signed by:


Tony Caldwell, Chair



Board of Juvenile Affairs

Rates and Standards Presentation

September 18, 2019

On July 15, 2019, the OJA Rates and Standards Committee voted unanimously to recommend for the Board of Juvenile Affairs the proposal represented by items within this presentation designated by RS19-007.

As required by statute, each component of these rate proposals were submitted to OMES for review and approval. Approval was granted by State Purchasing Director, Sam DuRegger on September 3, 2019. (Copy of the approval letter is in the board packet)

Summary

- More specific information is in the board packet – this presentation is only a general summary
- This Rate & Standard will be Effective the latter of Oct 1, 2019, or upon approval by the updated Rehabilitation Behavioral Management Services (RBMS) rate by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

OJA Community-based Level E Group Home

- RS19-007-01
- Rate: OJA will compensate Group Home providers for beds reserved exclusively for OJA at a per diem rate of \$192.31 for contracted beds not to exceed 16 beds per program.
- Standards: Program must comply with OJA Rules, Policy and Procedures and OHCA requirements for RBMS.

Rate Structure

| Category | Rate | % |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Direct Care Staff (4 day – 2 night) | \$102.85 | 53.3% |
| Operational Expenses (food, clothing, transportation, staff training, janitorial, insurance) | 32.45 | 16.9% |
| Administrative Staff (Director, front office, food service) | 31.22 | 16.2% |
| Facility (428.57 sqft/resident) | 14.09 | 7.3% |
| Therapeutic Staff | <u>11.70</u> | 6.1% |
| TOTAL | \$192.31 | |
| | | |



Office of Juvenile Affairs

FY21 Budget Request

| Budget Request & Investment Priorities (FY21) | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Priority | Description | State Appropriated Funding (Request) | State Revolving Funds | Federal Funds | Total Need |
| 1 | Competitive Alignment of Direct Care Salaries with Market/DOC and Performance-based Incentive Pay for Field and Institutional Staff | \$1,250,000.00 | | | \$1,250,000.00 |
| 2 | Detention Rate Adjustment 7.5% to 15% depending on program level | \$1,600,000.00 | | | \$1,600,000.00 |
| 3 | Electronic Health Records - Includes \$305,000 for Implementation/Start up | \$300,000.00 | | \$125,000.00 | \$425,000.00 |
| 4 | Group Home Rate Equalization - Increase in State Share | \$925,000.00 | | \$2,248,400.00 | \$3,173,400.00 |
| 5 | Enhancing Residential Treatment Services and Upgrade Treatment Staff Credentialing/Qualifications | \$875,000.00 | | | \$875,000.00 |
| 6 | Data Driven Decision Making | \$359,000.00 | | | \$359,000.00 |
| 7 | Fleet Management Upgrade - Safety and Improved Reliability - Support for Mobile Workforce | \$800,000.00 | | \$200,420.00 | \$1,000,420.00 |
| 8 | Focus on Family Engagement | \$343,000.00 | | | \$343,000.00 |
| 9 | GPS Program | \$650,000.00 | | | \$650,000.00 |
| 10 | PAF Annualization of Ending Grant funding | \$250,000.00 | | | \$250,000.00 |
| | TOTALS | \$7,352,000.00 | | \$2,573,820.00 | \$9,925,820.00 |